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Pathways from Poverty Educational Network

Eileen Zuber and Steve Nelson, eds. University Park, PA: Northeast Regional Center for Rural Development, 1996, 140 pages. Available electronically from www.cas.nercrd.psu.edu (under "publications"); for more information, call 1-814-863-4656.

Pathways from Poverty Educational Network is a resource guide to organizations that are helping communities build coalitions and community capacity. Over 75 organizations in 12 Northeast States are listed. Included in each listing are the missions of the organization, their accomplishments, their funding, and a contact person.

The guide also includes the presentations from the 1995 Pathways from Poverty Workshop for the Northeast Region, which are provided as background material on the current state of rural poverty issues. Topics included are mothers in poverty (Virginia E. Schein), social capital as a pathway from poverty (John Gaventa), the demographics of rural poverty (Leif Jensen), causes of poverty (Ann Tickameyer), children in poverty (Patricia Garrett), and education and poverty (Daniel Lichter).

Broken Heartland: The Rise of America's Rural Ghetto

Osha Gray Davidson. Iowa City: University of Iowa Press, Iowa, 1996, 220 pages. ISBN 0- 87745-554-6 (paperback) \$13.95. To order, call 1-800-862-6657.

Broken Heartland chronicles the changes that have happened in the rural Midwest over the last 20 years, focusing on Iowa. Much of the book discusses the farm crisis of the 1980's. Davidson looks at the roots of the farm crisis, starting with the Homestead Act of 1862. The results of the farm crisis are presented—outmigration of younger people, the aging of the population, closed businesses, unemployment, homelessness, and the rise in murder, suicide, domestic violence, and hate groups. Davidson characterizes rural Iowa as a rural ghetto due to the increase in poverty from the farm crisis. Rural development efforts, such as attracting meat packing plants, and their impacts on Iowa towns are discussed. A more recent development, large hog farms, is also covered. This is an

expanded edition of *Broken Heartland*, originally published in 1990 by the Free Press. It contains extensive endnotes and references sections.

The International State: Crafting a Statewide Trade Development System

Carol Conway and William Nothdurft. Washington, DC: The Aspen Institute, 1996, 160 pages. ISBN 0-89843-186-7 (paperback) \$15.00. To order, call 1-410-820-5326.

The message of *The International State* is that "state trade offices have the potential to be the nexus of a comprehensive statewide *trade development system*." (p. 11) This system includes State economic development and agricultural trade offices, other agencies that affect business competitiveness, for-profit and nonprofit trade facilitators, and representatives of foreign counties. Conway and Nothdurft outline the principles that should guide State efforts to design a trade development system in order to help businesses, communities, and regions compete internationally. The authors present a number of examples from U.S. States and foreign countries. Also included is a section on the history and current status of trade promotion in the United States.

The International State is part of the Aspen Institute's Best Practice Series. The Aspen Institute also publishes a companion volume, *Internationalizing Rural Economies: Problems, Principles and Practice*, by William Nothdurft.

Agrarian Women: Wives and Mothers in Rural Nebraska, 1880-1940

Deborah Fink. Chapel Hill, NC: The University of North Carolina Press, 1992. ISBN 0-8078-2019-9 (cloth) \$37.50. ISBN 0-8078-4364-4 (paperback) \$13.95. To order, call 1-919-966-3561.

Agrarian Women explores the daily life of farm women in Nebraska. Fink, an anthropologist, used interviews as well as other source materials, to understand the conditions of farm life during 1880-1940. Her focus is Boone County, Nebraska. Covered are the earlier, settler years, and the

changes that were brought about by the economic depression that began in rural areas in the 1920's. Among the many aspects of women's lives discussed are housing conditions, class differences, socializing in the community, marriage, motherhood, domestic violence, and alcoholism. She describes how the isolation of the farms, especially in

the earlier years, had a great impact on the farm wives' lives. Throughout the book, Fink discusses agrarian ideology and what it meant for women's roles in society. Included are census and other demographic data for Boone County, photographs, and an extensive bibliography.